

# The BROAD AX

HEW TO THE LINE; LET THE CHIPS FALL WHERE THEY MAY

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## The Christmas and New Years Balls Were All Largely Attended

THE BEST OF ORDER PREVAILED AT ALL OF THEM, EXCEPT THAT ONE PICKPOCKET CREATED SOME DISTURBANCE AT THE KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS BALL, MUCH TO THE REGRET OF THOSE IN CHARGE OF IT.

THE NEW YEAR'S BALL GIVEN BY THE EIGHTH REGIMENT, ILLINOIS NATIONAL GUARDS, AT THE SEVENTH REGIMENT ARMORY, WAS A NICE AND PLEASANT AFFAIR IN EVERY WAY.

IT WAS LARGELY ATTENDED BY MANY OF THE BEST AND MOST PROMINENT PEOPLE IN CHICAGO.

THE COLORED RAILWAY MEN GAVE THEIR ANNUAL BALL AT THE COLISEUM ANNEX, MONDAY EVENING, JANUARY 1.

MR. AND MRS. JOHN ARTHUR (JACK) JOHNSON WERE PRESENT AND MINGLED WITH THE LARGE THROG OF PEOPLE THAT ATTENDED IT.

HIS ENGLISH VALET WAS IN EVIDENCE AND RIGHT AT HIS HEELS JUST AS SOON AS HE AND MRS. JOHNSON CEASED DANCING.

JESSE F. BOLLING, ONE OF ITS PROMOTERS, WAS WELL PLEASED WITH ITS OUTCOME AND WILL ANNOUNCE THE WINNERS OF THE PRIZES IN THE NEXT ISSUE OF THE BROAD AX.

Three big and successful balls were held in this city among the Afro-Americans during the holidays; the Knights of Pythias held forth at the Coliseum Annex Christmas evening and it was more than well attended, and those in evidence seemed to enjoy themselves hugely and everybody seemed to be happy and out for a good merry time.

Everything passed off nicely at the K. P. hall, except that just as it was winding up a pick-pocket, wanting to get some easy money, relieved one of the dancers of his pocket-book containing all of his money, and when he protested at the way he had been held up he was cut very badly with a razor by the gentleman who got away with his money and the policemen very promptly arrested the gentleman who was cut and bleeding like a stuck hog and the gentleman who cut him up, and gobbled onto his money walked out of the ball room unmolested.

It appears that at all times we have some mighty sharp or smart policemen in Chicago.

The Eighth Regiment, Illinois National Guards, held their New Year's ball at the Seventh Regiment Armory, on Monday evening and it was a nice and pleasant affair in every way. It

was largely attended by the best people in this city.

The best of order prevailed throughout the evening and it was again proven that the people are always willing to turn out and aid the Eighth Regiment and its commander Col. John R. Marshall.

The Colored Railway men, gave their annual ball at the Coliseum Monday evening, Jan. 1, and Mr. and Mrs. J. Arthur (Jack) Johnson, were present and freely mingled with the large throng of people that attended it, and Mrs. Johnson was ablaze with diamonds and French or Willow plumes from the tips of her pretty toes to the top of her head, and with all of her fine fixings and diamonds she was easily the queen of the ball.

Mr. Johnson was rigged up in a full dress black suit, covered with diamonds and a plug hat and his English valet was in evidence at his and at the heels of Mrs. Johnson just as soon as they ceased dancing, and they were the center of attraction throughout the evening.

Jesse F. Bolling one of the promoters of the Railway Men's ball, was well pleased with its outcome and will announce the winners of the prizes in the next issue of The Broad Ax.

## THE ARRANT-POWELL WEDDING.

The wedding of Miss Mabel Arrant to Mr. Jno. C. Powell occurred at the residence of Mrs. Hattie Arrant, the mother of the bride, 3635 Vernon avenue, at 12:30 o'clock Wednesday, Jan. 3, 1912.

The bride was gowned in white messaline, trimmed in white chiffon, with pink buds, white slippers and carried a bouquet of pink tea roses tied with satin ribbon.

The bridesmaid was Miss Alma Parks who was gowned in blue satin draped in blue chiffon, with blue slippers, carrying a bouquet of flowers as that of the bride's.

The flower girl was little Miss Jennette Eggelson.

The ring bearer was Miss Juanita Emanuel, the groomsmen was Mr. George Garner.

Mrs. William Emanuel was matron of honor.

Miss Gladys Edwards favored the audience with a solo, "Oh Promise Me."

The ceremony was performed by Dr. D. P. Roberts, assisted by Rev. J. N. McCracken.

The following are some of the many presents received by the happy married couple:

Mr. and Mrs. Pierce, water colored picture; Mr. J. W. Woodley, silver mesh bag; Mr. Lucius Simmon, wall picture; Mr. L. D. Kemp, latenberg table cover; Mr. and Mrs. Hen-

ry Sneed, cut glass jeletine dish; Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Roberts, silver syrup stand and tray; Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Allen, hand-painted olive dish; Mrs. A. Black, hand-painted salt and pepper set; Miss Harkem, imported linen towels; Mrs. A. Echerts, wall picture; Mrs. George Crump, night dress; Mr. and Mrs. M. E. Bowman, fancy night dress; Mr. and Mrs. Beck, cross bared lined night dress; Mrs. J. F. Parks and daughter, hand-painted chop dish; Miss Mamie Morton, box of silk hose; Mr. and Mrs. Wm. McCoy, linen towels; Mr. and Mrs. Julius F. Taylor, book on friendship; Mr. and Mrs. J. Gary Lucas, linen towels; Mrs. E. Fitzgerald, imported wall plate; Mrs. Paul Eggleston, cake; Mr. and Mrs. Harrison, set of dresser's scarf; Mrs. H. A. Woolridge, gold gilt vase; Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Huggins, linen table cloth; Miss Lillian Coleman and Elizabeth Mitchell, 3 piece tea set; Mr. and Mrs. Jefferson, white silk socks and blue supporters; Mrs. Stewart and daughter, bed spread; Mrs. W. M. Emanuel silver chafing dish, and Mrs. Robert D. Albright, dresser set.

It was a very pretty home wedding the house was artistically decorated and illuminated for the occasion and Mrs. Arrant should feel highly delighted in getting her only daughter Miss Mabel who has always been dutiful and has endeavored to be "somebody," married to a nice steady young man. They will receive Sunday afternoon and evening.



OSCAR HEBEL.

Ex-member of the Board of Assessors of Cook County; popular German American citizen and Republican candidate for State's Attorney.

## EMANCIPATION DAY AT HAMPTON INSTITUTE.

Hampton, Va., Jan. 2.—Two thousand representative Colored people of Hampton and vicinity gathered on New Year's Day in the Hampton Institute Gymnasium, at 2:30 o'clock, to celebrate the Forty-seventh anniversary of the Emancipation Proclamation.

Rev. A. A. Graham, pastor of Zion Church, Phoebus, Va., was the presiding officer. The best white and Colored people came together to hear the wonderful story of Negro progress during the years of his freedom. The audience was made up of prosperous looking, intelligent, attentive, and responsive people.

The chief address was delivered by President J. A. Cotton, of Henderson Normal Institute, Henderson, N. C., who spoke on "The Negro's Opportunity for the Future."

### Address of Dr. Cotton.

Dr. Cotton grouped his remarks about four topics: cash, culture, character, and Christianity. He emphasized the importance of training Negro men and women who will prove themselves dependable and fearless in doing what is right. He urged the Colored people to serve God aright by helping their fellow-men. He declared that the Negro race and the nation are dying for the want of love—love that means self-sacrifice and service which is Christlike.

### Dr. Frissell Speaks.

Dr. H. B. Frissell, principal of Hampton Institute, spoke eloquently concerning the fitness of celebrating the anniversary of the Emancipation Proclamation on ground which has been dedicated for over forty years to the upbuilding of the Negro and Indian races through agricultural and industrial training. He referred to the excellent work which is being done by Hampton students who have gone out like Christian soldiers to fight against ignorance, superstition, and sin. Where men had given their lives for freedom, it was fitting, he declared, that Negro men and women should reconsecrate their lives to noble service.

Dr. Frissell expressed the hope that year by year the Colored people would gather at Hampton Institute and learn anew that through great tribulation men come to their best.

### Negro Progress.

Rev. A. A. Graham said that he was glad the young people of Hampton Institute, who are the hope of their race, could face the older people and hear the story of emancipation. He outlined the Negro's uphill climb and the marvelous transformation in the Colored people through less than fifty years of freedom. It was significant, he declared, that on the old battle-fields there had sprung up institutions for the proper education of Negro youth.

He referred with pride to the handwork of Colored women which was on exhibition at the Hampton Institute Gymnasium and to the thirty-horse power automobile outside of the Gymnasium which had been built from the ground up by a Negro youth of Hampton.

David Owl, a Cherokee Indian, who is a Hampton student, brought the people a simple, straightforward, manly message of congratulation on their progress.

Tandy W. Coggs, a Colored student at Hampton Institute, spoke on "Negro Education." He declared that the educated Negro has been showing the people that thinking and doing go together. He showed that General Armstrong's belief in the capacity of the Negro for progress, which led to the founding of Hampton Institute, had been well grounded.

### Interesting Program.

Mr. Tressler Scott, of Hampton Institute, led a chorus of fifty-voices in the singing of three selections, including "Fairy Land" and "Native Land." Rev. J. W. Patterson, Hampton, offered the invocation. The Emancipation Proclamation was read by Nannie Williams, of Hampton. The Hampton Institute Band played a selection and a medley. The audience sang "My Country 'tis of Thee" and "O Freedom." The benediction was pronounced by Rev. John H. Gray, of Hampton.

The Hampton Institute Battalion, commanded by Capt. Allen Washington, associate commandant, met the large gathering of Colored people in Hampton and escorted them to Hampton Institute.

## THE NEWSPAPER AND ITS EDITOR.

Editing a newspaper in some respects is a good deal like preaching. The gospel truth must be presented in the form of generalities or some fellow will get his head bent, says a recent writer. Few persons like truth, even in "homopathic" doses, if it hits them. But while preachers and editors are criticized for what they do say, no one thinks of giving them credit for what they do not say. Yet what they keep to themselves constitutes the major portion of what they know about people. Very many people harbor the belief that newspapers are eager to publish derogatory things. It's a mistake. There isn't a newspaper that could not spring a sensation in the community at any time by merely telling what it knows. There is not a newspaper that does not keep under the lock of secrecy scores of derogatory things which never meet the public eye or reach the public ear. Deciding what not to print is the most troublesome part of newspaper work. How many good stories are suppressed for innocent relatives and for the public good, nobody outside of a newspaper office has any idea of. In some instances he who flies into a pas-

## The Metropolitan Mercantile and Realty Company of New York City Was A Complete Failure

FORMER DIRECTOR OF DEFUNCT COMPANY MAKES A FRANK STATEMENT IN RELATION TO ITS AFFAIRS.

THOUSANDS OF COLORED PEOPLE LOST ALL THE MONEY THEY HAD INVESTED IN ITS STOCKS AND BONDS.

MORE THAN \$500,000 OF HARD WORKINGMEN'S AND WOMEN'S LIFE LONG SAVINGS SWALLOWED UP BY FAST LIVING ON THE PART OF ITS OFFICIALS.

THEIR SAVINGS HAVE GONE WITHOUT THE SLIGHTEST HOPE THAT THEY WILL EVER RECEIVE ONE CENT IN RETURN FOR IT.

More than 5,000 hard working Colored men and women throughout the North and East will now learn authoritatively what they must have realized for some time that of the more than five hundred thousand dollars of their life-long savings which they invested in the defunct Metropolitan Mercantile and Realty Co. they will never see a cent again. If the word of a former director whose connection with the company was entirely blameless and an eleventh hour effort to avert the wreck may be believed, all of these unfortunate, trusting men and women will abandon all hope in that connection. Though in the wrecking of the fortunes of so many innocent people there has been evident some grossly criminal guilt and high financiering upon the part of some of the officials of the company from present indications, it does not seem that even they will be brought again to justice and made to suffer for their costly crimes.

H. H. Dennis, chairman of the stockholders' committee, states that the funds necessary to the prosecution of those guilty are not forthcoming and that the stockholders will contribute nothing more and perhaps, he added, for very good reasons. As a consequence the entire matter has probably died a natural death.

A News representative interviewed J. Turner Wall as follows: "Will the stockholders ever get anything out of the old Metropolitan Mercantile and Realty Co.?" and his reply was as follows: "I don't see where they are going to get it from. In the first place there are many creditors who have sued the company and succeeded in getting judgment against them for many thousands of dollars, and if anything was discovered (which I don't think there will ever be) the judgment creditors would undoubtedly take everything in sight, as they are the preferred creditors, so you can see that the stockholders are losing time

because a newspaper prints something about him which he considers complimentary has every reason to feel profoundly grateful to the newspaper for publishing so little of what it knows of him. And oft times the loudest bluffer is the most vulnerable to attack. A big solid effort device employed to cover trepidation. Newspapers put up with more bluffing than any other agency would endure. It is not because they are unwilling to use their power to destroy or ruin unless the interests of society imperatively demand it. It might be well for some people to reflect upon these truths and in silent gratitude accept mild admonition. Let worst befall them. — Minneapolis Argus.

The above article is full of the gospel truth, and many times we refrain from publishing things that would seem almost unbelievable in connection with the fast conduct of some of the highest society leaders among the four hundred Afro-Americans in this city and if we ever did make up our mind to publish a tenth part of their short comings or side stagings at late hours in the evenings, both prominent men and women would light out of this town like unto rats deserting a sinking vessel. — Editor.

bothering with the old company." Then Mr. Wall was asked: "What about the bondholders?" He went on to state that the bondholders are the same as mortgage holders, and all the property that is mentioned in the \$50,000 bond issue, which will expire in 1915, I think, have the control of that property, and they are the only possible ones that will get anything."

Then Mr. Wall was asked: "Are you a bondholder?" and his reply was:

"No, I did not get any of the bonds, as I was so sure that I would better benefit myself by loaning my money and time to the company that I never thought of waiting until 1915 for my returns, and many of my friends did likewise. The reason I put so much confidence in the future prospects of the old company was, when I was elected as a member of the board of directors, which was the last year of the company, I discovered that the company was many thousands of dollars, possibly \$75,000, in debt, and I also found that the stockholders owed to the old company \$250,000 on stock, etc. Well, I thought under those conditions we could by hard work and a little money put out we could have the company on its feet in a little while, as many others thought, so you can see that it seemed possible that enough of that \$250,000 might be collected to settle that \$75,000 against the company. I always thought, as many others did, that we could and should save the biggest thing that the Negro race ever had, for as a race we have nothing that we can hold up to the world that represents the race, but ragtime." Just think what we are doing daily. We are putting our money in the many banks of this country because it is safe. But it is not giving our young men and women positions as clerks, stenographers, bookkeepers, managers, collectors and agents. When our young men and women come out of schools fitted for such work we have made it possible for these positions to be filled with the other races. Our young men and women are not willing to do a line of work other than that they are not fitted for. Here is the curse of our situation. We often say, 'if the white brother would give us a chance.' Well, what anybody gives you isn't very much. We must demand something, and the only way that we will ever do it is to unite our hands and hearts together and live for the upbuilding of the race, but that is the hardest thing to do, and I don't believe that time will come until we will have been used as the Jews were in Russia.

"A few days ago I said to one of the many merchants in Harlem (where the Negro brings over \$50,000 each week and spends it with them to never see a dollar of it again), why don't some of you employ Colored clerks? And the answer was: 'Why don't some of your Colored men open stores yourselves? Then you could employ your own Colored clerks; another case of asking.' — The Amsterdam News, New York City, Dec. 30, 1911.